



TOTAL FREEDOM

Seattle Free Press

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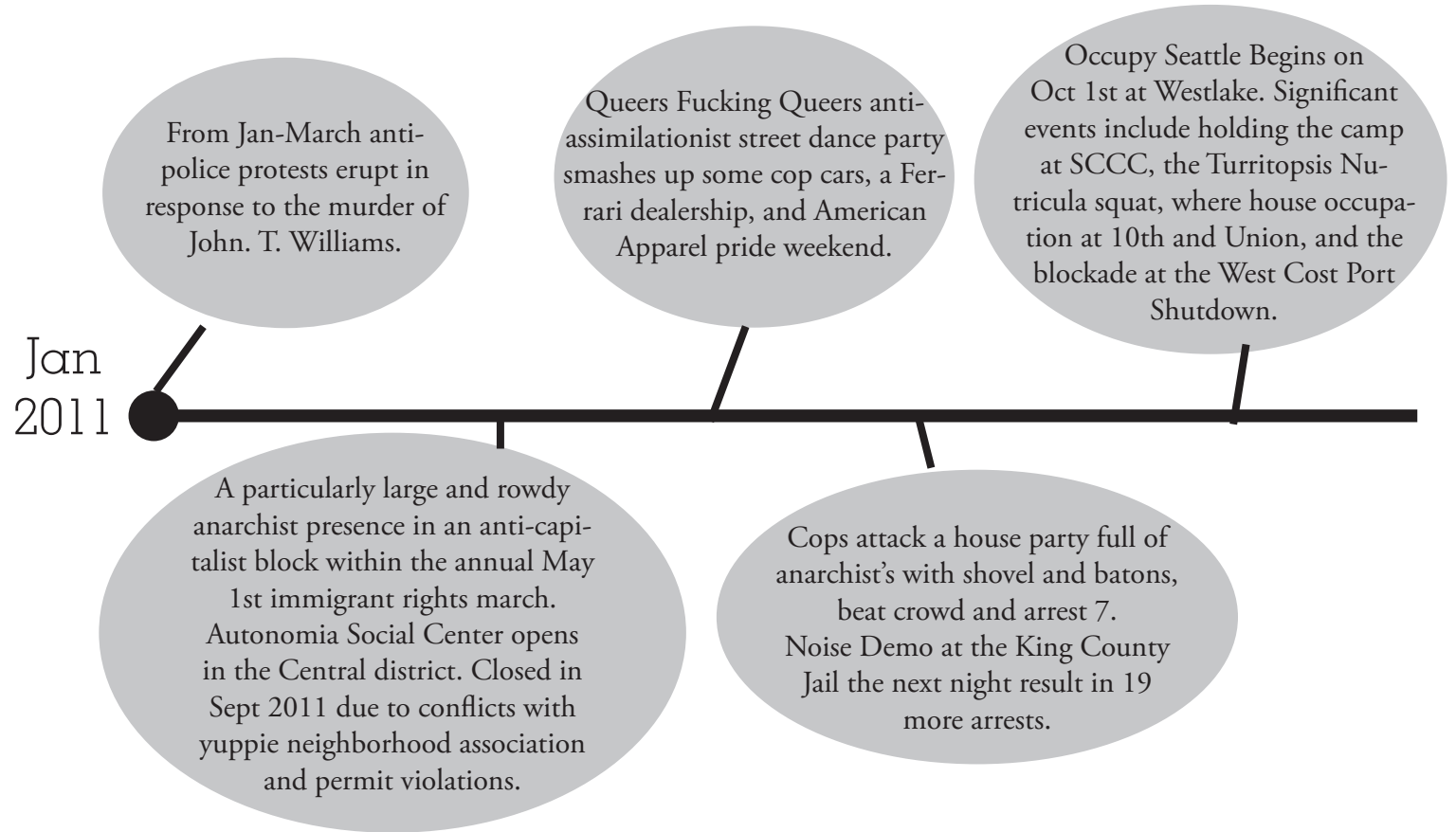
A timeline

particularly

of events still unfolding may seem premature, but reflection always has its place. By looking at events alone don't reveal. Patterns of tactics, ruptures, and intentions emerge. It's by looking at the ways they resonate.

May 1st has gradually begun to establish itself as an outspokenly anarchist holiday in Seattle. The police murder of John Williams, a particularly large anti-capitalist block came together for the first time that had expressed itself in the streets the winter before found form in an aggressive anarchist block downtown, with estimates of \$150,000 and \$300,000 damage to banks and corporate store fronts.

Since then a steady wave of repression has cast itself over the North West - from house raids to the murder of John Williams and others close to them. The repression is more than just a response to a few broken windows. It is a tagonism to cement itself in the street. This is the State's attempt to isolate and quarantine the anarchist movement, prove lethal to the body politic.



Nike Town Smashed in Portland

In the spirit of May Day 2012 in Seattle, a Nike store alongside a major street in Portland had about half of its front windows smashed out with a baseball bat.

One of the large panes had text that spoke of community building. As the Portland 'LGBTQ' Pride NW festival and parade approaches, we queers cringe in disgust while corporate branding dominates the whole of the festivities.

Nike increasingly invests in their so-called community (i.e. people who will buy their products) through events such as Pride, yet if Nike were involved in such a thing as a community they wouldn't ignore the modern slaves working in their sweatshops, some of whom, undoubtedly, are LGTB themselves.

This action taken in memory of three trans women of color who were murdered last month, Kelly Young, Ashley Sinclair, and Cemina "Ce Ce" Dove. Your beauty lives on through our rage! Also taken in solidarity with those resisting the PNW grand jury, especially those who have been displaced by the state, and to show that action is still possible under the watchful eye of the FBI.

Rail Lines in Central Oregon Sabotaged in Solidarity with PNW Anarchists

Late at night on May Day we sabotaged a rail line in Central Oregon. Capital depends more than ever on the metropolis, the constant flow of commodities, services, capital, information, and any interruption of that flow is a small victory. We took this action in solidarity with all those facing investigation, imprisonment, and repression in the Northwest. As we become more dangerous, the danger to us grows as well, but we will not cower in the face of those who would control us. We took this action knowing full well the extent of political repression in the Pacific Northwest. Not because we want to show our defiance or rage to the state; to them we have nothing to say. We acted because our love for our comrades far outweighs our fear of repression, and because love is an action, not a feeling.

This action was quick and easy. Using copper wire with the ends stripped, we wrapped both ends of wire around the rail and buried the middle section. This sends a false signal that there is a train on the tracks, delaying any other movement until the blockage is cleared.

In solidarity with those resisting the grand jury, those facing investigation, and those who, in the face of the media and massive police preparations, still managed to bring some destruction to the streets of Seattle.

Grand Jury Resistance Continues in Exile and on the Run

In late July of 2012, our friend Steve received a phone call from a man identifying himself as an FBI agent. He was told that a subpoena had been issued for him to appear before a federal Grand Jury investigating the vandalism of the Kenzo Nakamura Court of Appeals.

His life has been severely impacted by the course of events. He has made the choice to leave his former life behind in order to resist the Grand Jury on his own terms. This means that Steve has gone without face-to-face contact with his family, friends, and loved ones for many months.

While Steve has been doing his best to adjust to life in a new place, it has not been an easy transition. He is in a really rough spot right now, being thousands of miles away from his home and not knowing when he will be able to return. He has already been physically and verbally harassed by the state forces in his new location, and is having a hard time finding employment due to not having status and language barriers. At the same time, he has been doing his best to keep his spirits high and is grateful for all the support and solidarity he has received so far, and for the new friends he has made. The fact remains that life inside capitalist society is expensive, and at this point he has no income whatsoever. Please consider donating to Steve so he can take care of his rent, bills, transportation costs, and everything else this life forces us to pay for. As little or much as you can, anything helps.

wepay.com/donations/solidaritywithsteve

Sensational Reporting: A response to the media's lies and distortions

This May, Seattle was treated to yet another stream of sensationalized stories, inaccurate reporting, and downright lazy journalism from a veritable who's who of local news organizations.

"In the Wake of Boston Attack, is Seattle Ready for May Day?" asked King 5 news in the days before the protests, apparently wanting to warn Seattle Residents of an impending terrorist attack that never materialized.

"Westboro Baptists, meet May Day 'Anarchists'" read the News Tribune, making a perhaps even more tenuous connection between anarchists and the infamously homophobic church than the Times did between anarchists and the Boston Bombers.

The Editorial Board of the Seattle Times this year, for their part, dropped even the pretense of journalistic objectivity in their official comment on the days events; they noted that this year's workers' holiday was filled with "messageless street tantrums" and "clownish protesters," made tolerable only by the "praise worthy... preparation and performance of the Seattle Police Department."

The vitriol and uncommon malice with which the media in Seattle pursued anarchists this year was impressive, even by their own standards (what few exist), upstaging

last years' coverage by a long shot.

But perhaps the most noteworthy theme of this year's media frenzy - and certainly the more familiar one - was a widespread pitting of anti-capitalists against immigration reform advocates; or as Lance Dickie of the Times put it, pitting "troublemakers" against "legitimate protesters."

Indeed, no matter where you turned - to print news, radio commentary, or to the television - the chorus was deafening. "Will Anarchists Drown Out Immigration Reform Message?" asked Manueal Valdes of Komo 4 news.

Why don't you tell us? The vehicle by which "messages" are gotten out is through news outlets like your station, Komo 4. Blaming anti-capitalists for your poor coverage is intentionally divisive - its meant to make immigration reform advocates angry at those present at the anti-capitalist march.

In truth - as any journalist who had spent more than five minutes conducting interviews could have told you - there is a large amount of material support between participants in the two marches.

As Brendan Kiley of The Stranger noted in an interview he conducted on the day of the march, "Some immigration-reform marchers were only too happy to be associated with the other May Day..."

"There will be little kids and elderly people at this march," Dani, Mr. Kiley's interviewee said.

"[Doing] something [such as political vandalism] so the cops come in and grab people could be a problem. But if they do their thing, I have no quarrel with that. If they wanna beat the shit out of Bank of America, that's fine with me. Nike-town, same thing. Fuck those guys."

The simple fact of the matter is that many in the anti-capitalist march have been volunteers for groups like Casa Latina, El Centro de la Raza, or the Seattle Solidarity Network, all of whom either endorsed the reform march or had contingents within it. And that is precisely the fear of the police and the Mayors office when these situations grow out of control - that they can't be isolated.

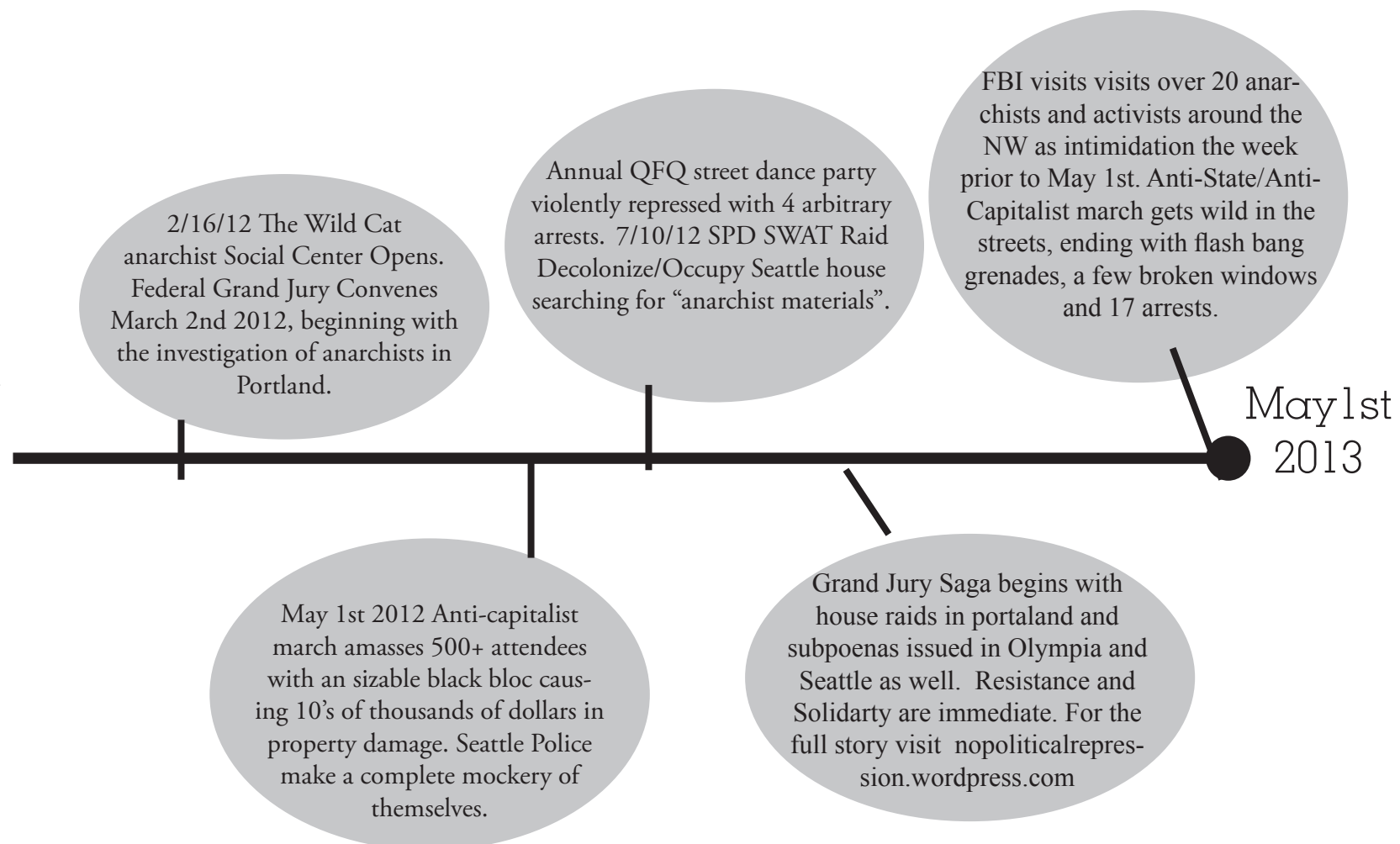
These are fears which were, despite the reporting, realized for a second year in a row. Many of the participants in the immigration reform march made their way over to Seattle Central later that night as medics and videographers for anti-capitalist marchers, or to wear the black themselves.

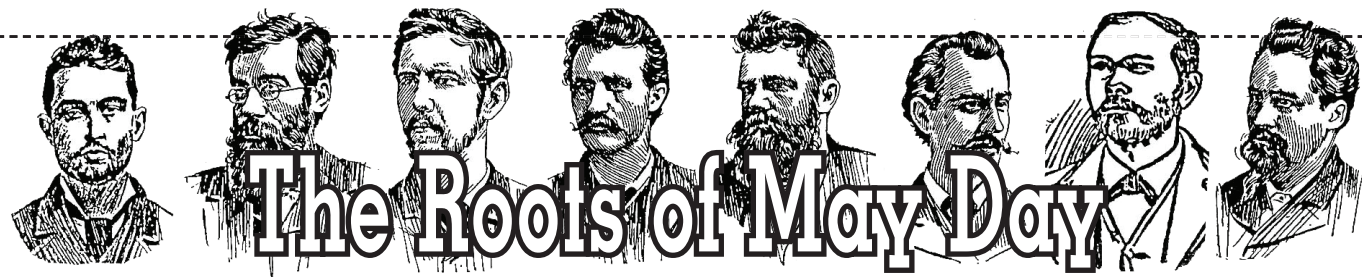
Had reporters done any of their homework, they'd have known this. One suspects, however, that they have too big a personal grudge against anti-capitalists to report objectively on their actions. Journalists indeed.

at the recent past we can find layers and patterns that isolated inci-
our overall trajectory that we might gain insight into our actions and

. In 2011, following a spike of anarchist activity and attacks over the
immigrant rights march organized by El Comite. Much of the energy
presence. In 2012, the may 1st anti-capitalist march wrecked much of
ts.

o a Federal Grand Jury and continued FBI harassment of anarchists
rs; its the ability of these actions to be taken at all, for any sort of an-
contagious pathogen of social revolt, which, if it were to spread, may





Originally a pagan holiday, the roots of May Day lay in the fight for the eight-hour working day, and the subsequent arrest and execution of 4 anarchist organizers.

In 1887, four Chicago anarchists were executed; a fifth cheated the hangman by killing himself in prison. Three more were to spend 6 years in prison until pardoned by Governor Altgeld who said the trial that convicted them was characterised by “hysteria, packed juries and a biased judge”.

The state had, in the words of the prosecution put “Anarchy is on trial” and hoped their deaths would also be the death of the anarchist idea. The anarchists were trade union organisers and May Day became an international workers day to remember their sacrifice. They were framed on false charges of throwing a bomb at police breaking up a demonstration.

In the months prior to this date workers in the hundreds of thousands were drawn into the struggle for a shorter work day. Skilled and unskilled, black and white, men and women, native and immigrant were all becoming involved.

In Chicago alone 400,000 were out on strike. A newspaper of that city reported that “no smoke curled up from the tall chimneys of the factories and mills, and things had assumed a Sabbath-like appearance”. This was the main centre of the agitation, and here the anarchists were in the forefront of the labour movement. It was to no small extent due to their activities that Chicago became an outstanding trade union centre and made the biggest contri-

bution to the eight-hour movement.

Throughout the speeches the crowd was orderly. Mayor Carter Harrison, who was present from the beginning of the meeting, concluded that “nothing looked likely to happen to require police interference”. He advised police captain John Bonfield of this and suggested that the large force of police waiting at the station house be sent home.

It was close to ten in the evening when a man named Fielden was closing the meeting. It was raining heavily and only about 200 people remained in the square. Suddenly a police column of 180 men, headed by Bonfield, moved in and ordered the people to disperse immediately. Fielden protested “we are peaceable”.

At this moment a bomb was thrown into the ranks of the police. It killed one, fatally wounded six more and injured about seventy others. The police opened fire on the spectators. How many were wounded or killed by the police bullets was never exactly ascertained.

Eventually eight men would stand trial for being “accessories to murder”. They were Spies, Fielden, Parsons, and five other anarchists who were influential in the labour movement, Adolph Fischer, George Engel, Michael Schwab, Louis Lingg and Oscar Neebe.

No proof was offered by the state that any of the eight men before the court had thrown the bomb, had been connected with its throwing, or had even approved of such acts. In fact, only three of the eight had been in Haymarket Square that evening.

No evidence was offered that

any of the speakers had incited violence, indeed in his evidence at the trial Mayor Harrison described the speeches as “tame”. No proof was offered that any violence had been contemplated. In fact, Parsons had brought his two small children to the meeting.

That the eight were on trial for their anarchist beliefs and trade union activities was made clear from the outset. The trial closed as it had opened, as was witnessed by the final words of Attorney Grinnell’s summation speech to the jury. “Law is on trial. Anarchy is on trial. These men have been selected, picked out by the Grand Jury, and indicted because they were leaders. There are no more guilty than the thousands who follow them. Gentlemen of the jury; convict these men, make examples of them, hang them and you save our institutions, our society.”

On November 11th 1887 Parsons, Engel, Spies and Fischer were hanged. 600,000 people turned out for their funeral. The campaign to free the remaining prisoners continued, and eventually won.

On June 26th 1893 Governor Altgeld set them free. He made it clear he was not granting the pardon because he thought the men had suffered enough, but because they were innocent of the crime for which they had been tried.

And so, on May 1st, anarchists across the world gather together to remember not only our fallen May Day comrades, but all those who have been murdered by the state or dragged away in chains. In their memory, we rise in the Spring. 🍀

...and Don'ts



Don't: Be easily identifiable

If you're attempting to remain anonymous, make sure to cover your hair, eye brows, and avoid easily identifiable clothing like patches and patterned scarves.

Don't: Be a super hero

if you like the idea of a bunch of deranged middle aged men wandering around your city getting in fights with drunk people, please, by all means, help these people out by snitching on yourself to the pigs.

Don't: peace police

Do you remember “conflict mediators” at school? Those kids that were given the clipboards and orange vests and wandered around the playground looking to stop fights between students? Remember how they could never stop those fights, and just had to wind up telling a teacher? Pretty much the same idea as these assholes, except replace “kid” with “adult” and “teacher” with “cops.”

May 1st Anti-Capitalist//Anti-State March 2013

At 6pm on Wednesday May 1st, a few hundred people converged on the Seattle Central Community College campus on Capitol Hill in Seattle for a May Day Anti-Capitalist and Anti-State rally and demonstration. The call out for the march itself had endured weeks of hype and hysteria from the local mainstream media and Seattle Police Department. It seemed that people from all over the city from media outlets, to the cops, to anarchists, reformists, and all sorts of people were speculating and fusing over this year's Anti-Capitalist demonstration.

Many expected the crowds to be small and the energy to be low, but quite to the contrary, the crowd was large, the atmosphere was festive and full of colors, flags, banners, music, fireworks, and flares. People took to the streets throughout Capitol Hill, eventually winding down towards Westlake Park where everyone held various intersections along the way.

Throughout the demonstration, members from the media were covered with silly string and pushed out of the crowd. The notorious Seattle Superheroes were present yet easily forgotten, although they also experienced some silly string action. The Superheroes were unable to make much of a presence let alone enact their citizen-cop desires.

The march became more rowdy as it approached the downtown sector. Tension was high as people passed by Niketown, one of the main targets of last year's Anti-Capitalist march, a bottle was thrown. People Cheered. A block later, people stopped in the street and danced over air vents while simultaneously spraying the media with silly string and pushing them out of the crowd again. Arrests were made a block later near Westlake Park, yet people still refused to leave the area.

After that, the police repeatedly attacked people in a game that would result in protestors pushing back, retreating, then re-engaging. That continued all the way back up to Capitol Hill and included the police deploying flash bang grenades and streams of pepper-spray at all those in reach. Once back

on the Hill, the group began throwing dumpsters, newspaper boxes, and other items into the streets to defend themselves from the approaching police force. Windows were broken at local businesses and one corporate business. The scramble continued as police laid on heavy assaults and protestors tossed fireworks and other small items. In the end 18 people were arrested, several people were injured from police violence and flash bangs, some police were injured in retaliation, and an overall sense of collective rebellion mixed with the fear and excitement of fighting the police and taking back space filled the air.

Amidst all the fear mongering from the media and the police, anarchists proved themselves to be a real force in Seattle, once again. Undaunted by the hysteria and anxiety of the FBI intimidation days before and the almost year long Grand Jury process, social antagonists in Seattle came together as an anti-capitalist festival of chaos and joyful rebellion that one can only hope is becoming a tradition. Happy May Day!



A follow up with May Day 2012's arrestees

The rebellious Mayday celebrations that took place in Seattle, 2012 saw eight demonstrators arrested by the lackeys of the rich, with five others charged months later for their alleged involvement in the anti-capitalist march and the attacks on government and capitalist property that took place.

The official list of arrestees that day is Jack T., Cody I., Bobby D., Maria M., Alex G., Charles C., Arthur E., and one more unidentified person. Of those that were arrested that day, many had their charges dropped because of video evidence showing the police's claims to be completely fabricated. Fabricated, of course, as in made up, imagined, or if one was less charitable - malicious bullshit; one has to wonder if the cops had been raiding the evidence locker for contraband substances prior to the event.

Alex G. was arrested for assault on a police officer, with charges later dropped because video of the event and police descriptions were diametrically opposed, as in more hallucinatory bullshit.

Another arrestee, Maria M., an ER tech, was arrested for punching an officer, while in reality she was attacked with no provocation and arrested, which can be seen at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G29FHwsu6ok>, with her arrest starting around 3:20 into the video.

Bobby D. was arrested for allegedly spitting on a cop when they took his 1/4" bamboo flagpole, claiming it contained a bolt which would have been too big for the bamboo to

hold without splintering, and he tried to save the flag from the pole.

Of those imprisoned in the dungeons of the state for the events of that day, Cody I. was kidnapped the longest so far, held for 43 days in federal prison, charged with malicious mischief for damage sustained to the federal courthouse and was released without probation, time served.

Among those charged later, one of them, Kellen L., has fled to avoid the dungeons of the state, another, Matt E., is representing themselves, and the others, Meaghn G., Phil N., and Jason. M., are in a case together. Currently, they're in a legal limbo where any misstep, including simply showing up at a protest, could lead to the state potentially adding more charges. In fact, they could not even be interviewed for this article without risking additional charges.

The state is in damage control mode, and they are trying to use the most provocative charges and allegations to mount public opposition against radical voices and resistance. They want people to see the smashed windows and not the oppressive organizations which hide behind them.

Local, state, and federal law enforcement have also been monitoring and harassing people in their everyday lives in an attempt to scare them away from future rebellion.

To support those currently being targeted by the state and to keep our friends and loved ones safe, we have to counter the dominant narrative being spewed against us with whatever means we have available. That

means flyers, posters, conversations, 'zines, paints, street demonstrations, or MAKE TOTAL UNICORN!!!, etc. It also means NOT TALKING TO THE FUCKING COPS! They are trained in cold reading people and by asking certain leading questions can get more information out of people's words and body language than those people think they're giving away. Whether they're local cops or feds, their job is to destroy any chances we have at countering the systems which hurt us, and they don't care how many people they kill or lock in cages to do so; treat them accordingly.

If you want to help out in any way to show support and solidarity with those caught up in the state's net of chains or just learn more about the cases, check out:

seattleantirepression.wordpress.com

There's violence all around us every Mayday, yet it's not coming in the form of a flagpole or a stone or even a molotov cocktail. It's the violence of 'business as usual', which can sometimes be brought into sharp focus by the targeted destruction of its symbols and nodes of power.

By the frantic witch hunt the ruling class' lackey's have dove head first into, it's obvious that the potential of Mayday's beautifully combative rage terrifies them. After all the years they have profited from the blood, sweat, and misery of uncountable multitudes, let's make sure the rich and their puppets have many more terrifying Mayday's to come! 🖤

Marching: Do's

Do: Mask up

Masking up doesn't necessarily mean dressing in all black. What's important is that if you're going to be getting dirty, make sure anything that could identify you is covered up. That means: face, hair, tattoos, torso, arms, and legs. Be ready to throw away EVERYTHING you wore to the march, and be sure to have a change of clothes on you or hidden nearby.



Do: Clown Block

Clowns are hilarious, especially when they're making fun of cops. Get into it.



Do: silly string the media

The mainstream press regularly cooperates with the police and the state to repress all of us. This has included sharing footage with investigators, delaying the release of stories which put police in a bad light or refusing to run them at all, printing the police's version of events without even the formality of asking for evidence to back up their claims, knowingly lying in their coverage, and much more. They are then somehow dumbfounded when people block their shots, ruin their audio, break their equipment or silly string them. Go figure.



Cautionary Note to May Day Protesters, Rioters, and Combatants: Stay Free

May Day's riotous anti-capitalist demonstration was wild and exhilarating. Now let's review some tips for keeping safe after the fact.

- *Do not keep the clothes you wore at the demonstration tonight! Dispose of them securely.* The police are already asking for photographs and videos in which people could be identified committing crimes. If you did anything that might have been illegal tonight, or could be mistaken for someone who did, ditch those clothes before they become evidence against you!

- Similarly, *do not keep any other instrument you used to commit a crime.* For example, there are already photos in the media of people breaking windows with visible, recognizable implements. Ditch those tools before they become evidence against you!

- DO NOT BRAG ABOUT RIOTING OR OTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITY, ESPECIALLY NOT ON THE INTERNET OR IN TEXTS!

- The police will be scouring Facebook and other social media looking for such boasts. If they arrest you, they will confiscate your phone and use information they find in text messages (including ones you think are deleted) as evidence against you. Resist the urge to brag to friends about tonight. This is a double-edged sword: the seductive appeal of insurrection should be communicated and spread, but be careful. For example, it may be okay to talk about being at an event or supporting what happened there, but it is a terrible mistake to claim to have thrown a bottle or to know who did.

- The police may also be looking to talk to anyone who was there to identify certain individuals as troublemakers; **NEVER PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT OTHER DEMONSTRATORS TO LAW ENFORCEMENT!** This is most easily accomplished by not talking to the police at all.

Learn more about security culture:

http://zinelibrary.info/files/zine-what_is_security_culture.pdf